

BLUE LINE EXTENSION HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

July 23, 2015



AGENDA

- Welcome by Mecklenburg County Health Department
- Updates on the Progress of the Blue Line Extension & UNCC
- Findings from the Health Impact Assessment
- Break
- Recommendations from the Health Impact Assessment
- Small Group Activity and Report Back
- Wrap Up/ Next Steps

- **Condition of Home**
- **Affordability & Gentrification**
- **Neighborhood & Community Condition**



Housing



UNCC Policies

- **Student Enrollment**
- **Campus Parking**
- **Student Fees/Transit Use**



Transportation

- **Vehicle Speed/Collisions**
- **Vehicle Miles Traveled/Air Pollution**
- **Active Transportation Opportunities**
- **Public Transit/Access/Fiscal Savings**
- **Traffic Congestion/Road Rage/Wayfinding**
- **Safety/Noise/Access to Unhealthy Activities**



Environment

- **Air Pollution**
- **Greenways & Exposure to Nature**
- **Water Quality & Stormwater Management**



HOUSING

- Condition of the Home (+,+)
- Affordability and Gentrification (o,-)
- Neighborhood and Community Condition (-/+,-/+)



TRANSPORTATION

- Vehicle Speed & Collisions (+/-, +/-)
- Vehicle Miles Traveled & Air Pollution (+/-, +/-)
- Active Transportation Opportunities (+/-, +/-)



TRANSPORTATION

- Public Transit, Access, & Fiscal Savings (+,+)
- Traffic Congestion, Road Rage, and Wayfinding (+,+)
- Safety, Noise, Access to Unhealthy Activities (-,-)



ENVIRONMENT

- Air Pollution (+/-, +/-)
- Greenways & Exposure to Nature (-, +/-)
- Water Quality & Stormwater Management (+/-, +/-)



UNCC POLICIES

- Student Enrollment (+,+)
- Campus Parking (+,+)
- Student Fees/Transit Use (+,+)



Savings Due to the Blue Line Extension

What if 1,950 UNCC Students, Faculty, & Staff Rode the BLE?

\$\$ Save **\$450** in Parking/Year and **\$10/Day** in Driving Costs



Could Save Another **\$9,120/Year** in Car Ownership Expenses



The University Could Save **\$8.56 M** in Constructing a New Parking Deck

What if 24,500 Extra People Rode the BLE to Work?

\$\$ CATS Would Generate an Additional **\$27 M** in Revenue Each Year



75 Million Vehicle Miles Would be Avoided Saving:

- **\$96,800** in Air Quality
- **\$3.8 M** in Traffic Congestion
- **\$27 M** in Collision Reductions
- **\$11.3 M** in Road Maintenance

What About Health Care and Quality of Life Savings?



More People Would be Physically Active Reducing the Health Care Cost of Physical Inactivity by **\$1,400** per Person



Air Quality Would Improve Reducing the Health Care Cost of Asthma by **\$3,300** per Person



Each Year of Life Saved through Healthier Behavior, Avoided Crashes, and Higher Education equals **\$130,000**

Total Estimated Benefits: **\$1.2 Billion/Year**

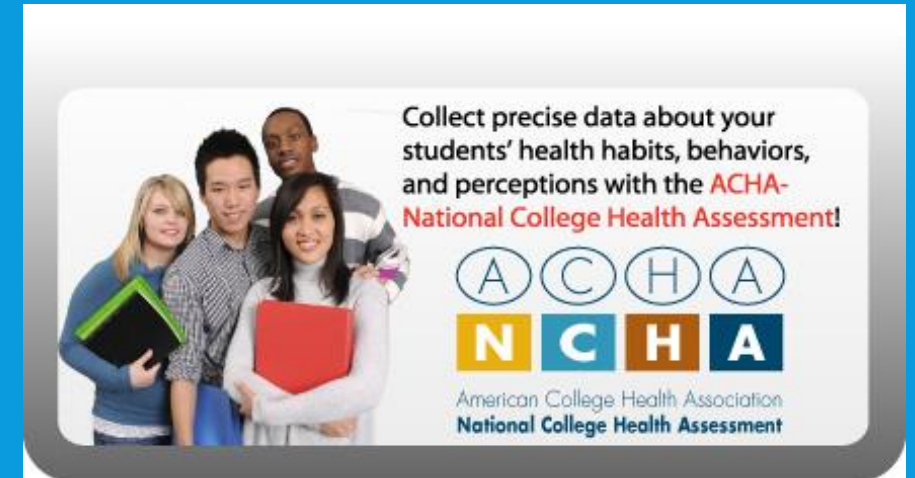
OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to consider health implications as CATS and Charlotte officials plan, construct and promote transit use in the greater Charlotte area.
2. Increase communication between the Charlotte Area Transit System, the University of North Carolina Charlotte, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning, Mecklenburg County Health Department, and members of the community including transit users, developers, and business owners.



OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Support additional studies that collect baseline health data, record usage of the Blue Line Extension (especially by students, faculty, and staff of UNCC), and monitor the health impacts of increased transit options.
4. Follow the recommendations set forth in the Environmental Impact Statement conducted on the Blue Line Extension.
5. Increase the knowledge, use, and support of the Student Health Survey including the addition of custom questions relevant to commuting patterns.



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

1. Separate into Small Groups- Housing, Environment, Transportation, UNCC Policies
2. Read over draft recommendations and answer the following:
 - What **Organization** would be involved in implementing this recommendation? Lead? Supporting?
 - Is this a short-term (0-6 months), mid-term (7-12 months), or long-term (1 year +) recommendation?
 - Is this recommendation feasible? If not scratch it out.
3. Are there additional recommendations that we should consider? If so draft the recommendations on the extra sheet of paper.
4. Of all the recommendations in your group, which 2 are the most important? Draw a star by these.
5. Be prepared to report back to the larger group.

NEXT STEPS

- Incorporating Feedback & Finalizing Report
- Making the HIA Report Available Publically
- Considering Future HIA Opportunities & Capacity Building Activities
- Evaluating Impact of the Blue Line Extension HIA
- Monitoring Health Impacts of Blue Line Extension



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[http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/HealthDepartment/CommunityHealthServices/Pages/Blue-Line-Extension-\(HIA\).aspx](http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/HealthDepartment/CommunityHealthServices/Pages/Blue-Line-Extension-(HIA).aspx)